

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:MAR

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA:ALATHERTONJR.

S/S-O:JHOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 112804

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, US

SUBJECT: YOUR POST-ELECTION ACTIVITY

1. I WANT FIRST TO SAY THAT I THINK YOUR ENERGETIC AND
TIMELY EFFORTS ARE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ELECTION
HAVING COME OFF TODAY, AND I THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATE
YOU. WE ARE FAR FROM OUT OF THE WOODS BUT WE ARE MAKING
PROGRESS.

2. I WILL OF COURSE WANT YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION
WE NOW HAVE IN THE WAKE OF THE ELECTION, AND YOUR
THOUGHTS ON HOW WE SHOULD NOW MOVE. MY PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS
ARE AS FOLLOWS:

3. IT WILL BE IMPORTANT FROM NOW ON TO BE SURE WE ARE IN
STEP WITH SARKIS. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT HE
WOULD PREFER NOT TO MEET WITH YOU JUST AFTER THE ELECTION,
SINCE I ASSUME HE WILL WANT TO AVOID THE CHANCE OF BEING
STIGMATIZED AS A US-BACKED CANDIDATE. I SUGGEST THAT IF

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YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO YOU GET A PERSONAL MESSAGE

TO HIM, CONGRATULATING HIM, SAYING YOU WANT TO BE SURE
THAT ANYTHING FURTHER YOU MAY DO IS IN STEP WITH HIM, AND
MAKING YOURSELF AVAILABLE TO MEET.

4. EVEN PENDING A REPLY FROM SARKIS, HOWEVER, I WOULD
THINK IT IMPORTANT TO GET THROUGH TO JUMBLATT WITH THE MES-
SAGE THAT THE HOPE FOR LEBANON NOW IS FOR THE LEBANESE TO
RALLY BEHIND THE NEW PRESIDENT. WE DID NOT HELP ELECT
SARKIS, BUT HE IS NOW THE PRESIDENT-ELECT. AS WE HAVE SAID
BEFORE, THE SHORTEST ROUTE TO DEPARTURE OF THE SYRIANS IS
THE COOPERATION OF THE LEBANESE AMONG THEMSELVES ON A SOLU-
TION OF THEIR OWN PROBLEMS. JUMBLATT'S POLITICAL, SOCIAL,
AND ECONOMIC REFORMS CAN NOW BE ADDRESSED WITHIN THE NEW
FRAMEWORK CREATED BY SARKIS' ELECTION.

5. I WOULD THINK IT BETTER TO HOLD OFF ON ANY FURTHER
APPROACH TO FRANGIE ABOUT HIS RESIGNATION UNTIL YOU HAVE
THE CHANCE TO COORDINATE WITH SARKIS. WE WILL BE PREPARED,
IF NECESSARY, TO PRESS FRANGIE TO STEP DOWN, BUT IN THE
FIRST INSTANCE THAT IS BETWEEN HIM AND SARKIS.

6. I APPRECIATE THAT SOME OF THESE THOUGHTS MAY ALREADY
BE OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS, AND I AWAIT YOUR COMMENTS. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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